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Copy 5 of 11

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13 October 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Critique for OXCART Mission BX6725

1. Subject mission critique was conducted in the OSA Control Center at 1400, 10 October 1967.

2. Mission Data:

- a. Mission Number: BX6725
- b. Date Flown: 4 October 1967
- c. Area of Operation: North Vietnam
- d. Mission Success: Successful
- e. Pilot's Name: [REDACTED]
- f. Aircraft Number: 127
- g. Primary or Spare Flown: Primary
- h. Takeoff Time - Planned: 0210Z
Actual: 0210Z
- i. Landing Time - Planned: 0606Z
Actual: 0619Z
- j. Time Enroute - Planned: 3+56 -
Actual: 4+09
- k. Departure Base: Kadena
- l. Landing Base: Kadena
- m. Equipment:

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(1) Primary: Type I, [REDACTED]

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(2) Spare: Same as primary.

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GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

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3. Operations:

- a. Route (INS Plot vs. Planned): Satisfactory.

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- b. Mission Generation & Operational Support: Satisfactory.

4. Weather:

- a. Forecast vs. Actual:

(1) As briefed.

(2) Comments: Cat II or better was briefed for the target area. reported the weather Cat I in the target area and 30% cloud cover overall.

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- b. Weather Scout Reporting: Satisfactory.

5. Intelligence:

- a. Target Coverage:

(1) 21 of 26 programmed targets covered
(2) 6 first priority SSM targets of 9 covered
(3) 15 of 48 first priority NVN COMOR targets covered
(4) 144 SAM Sites, 18 sites occupied, 1 new site
(5) 11 other priority NVN COMOR targets covered
(6) Comments: Additional observations: 1090 units of rolling stock and 82 trucks, 6 principal airfields covered (24 MIG 21/15/17), 38 of 40 bridges and rail yards on CIA priority BDA list, plus extensive coverage of rail lines and naval activity.

- b. Quality of Take: Satisfactory.

(1) Resolution: NPIC reports resolution best obtained to date.

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(2) Camera Operation: Intermittent minor loss of timing marks. Exposure normal, medium contrast and some data chamber overlap. Minus density lines down center of all frames taken by aft camera.

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f. Take Movement:

(1) Photography: Satisfactory.

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6. Materiel:

a. Aircraft General: Satisfactory.

(1) Comments: Pitch/trim indicator inop on last leg of flight.

b. Aircraft Systems: Satisfactory.

(1) Comments:

did not operate on second pass. Problem is being investigated at Kadena Air Base.

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7. Communications: Satisfactory.

a. Message Traffic: Satisfactory.

(1) Comments: No message traffic delay or other difficulty reported.

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[Redacted]

c. UHF/HF Commo: Satisfactory.

(1) Comments: UHF/HF radio operation was good. ARC-50 ADF mode range recorded at 104 miles; other modes reported functioning properly at 344.1 miles.

d. Other Comments: Frequency selection was good.

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8. Significant Actions Taken: Coordination in progress to establish

[Redacted]
[Redacted] LAC test in Aircraft 121 implemented to determine maneuverability data above 80M.

9. Outstanding Actions Required:

a. Investigate pre-mission indicators such as tanker movements, launch timing reporting, weather forecasts and generation procedures to determine prior knowledge information to ChiCom/NVN Defense System (Intelligence Division, OSA).

b. The following tactics need additional study:

(1) Peak fighter strike activity in NVN will be reviewed to determine if overflights can be scheduled during the period (Intelligence Division, OSA).

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(2) Vary penetration time, direction and altitude to reduce predictability (OXCART Division, OSA).

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for
Deputy for Operations, OSA

OXC/O/OSA

Distribution:

#1 - D/SA

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